



# M E D I A   R E L E A S E

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH &  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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## WEST-FREEMAN NAMED CHIEF OFFICER OF MEMPHIS MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE

Nashville—The Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities has named Dr. Jeanne West-Freeman chief officer of the Memphis Mental Health Institute. West-Freeman has served as interim chief officer since January of this year.

"We are so fortunate that Dr. Jeanne West-Freeman has accepted the position to lead Memphis Mental Health Institute. She has the leadership and management skills to ensure MMHI is providing quality, acute mental health services to those residing in Memphis/Shelby County," stated TDMHDD Commissioner Virginia Trotter Betts. "With over 30 years experience in the field of mental health, we could not have asked for a better candidate, and I am grateful she has agreed to stay on board."

Dr. West-Freeman has 28 years experience working at Memphis Mental Health Institute and 35 years total service to the state of Tennessee. She retired from her position as MMHI's assistant superintendent of program services in 2005 and served as the director of inpatient and partial services for Parkwood Behavioral Health Systems in Olive Branch, Miss. until October of 2007.

Dr. West-Freeman, a licensed clinical social worker, holds a MSSW from the University of Tennessee and a Ph.D. in Social Work from the University of Alabama.

For more information on the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities and Memphis Mental Health Institute please visit [www.state.tn.us/mental](http://www.state.tn.us/mental).

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